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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Puinno et al.

Serial No.: 09/993,303

Filed: November 21, 2001



: Group Art Unit:

: Examiner:

TECHCENTER 1600/2900

MAR 27 2002

RECEIVE

For: SELECTIVITY OF NUCLEIC ACID  
DIAGNOSTIC AND  
MICROARRAY TECHNOLOGIES  
BY CONTROL OF INTERFACIAL  
NUCLEIC ACID FILM  
CHEMISTRY

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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2/20/02  
Date

LEA MURRAY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NONFEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Once amended) A substrate for hybridization comprising a plurality of first nucleic acids alone or in combination with a plurality of one or more oligomers that are not nucleic acids immobilized on at least a portion of the substrate in a medium-high or high immobilization density.
3. (Once amended) The substrate of claim 2 wherein, in an assay, the difference in  $T_m$  between
  - (i) a fully-matched complex immobilized to the substrate, the complex comprising the first nucleic acid and the second nucleic acid; and